up to 20% of the ARWSP funds can be utilized by the States. In addition, during 2008-09, a new component has been started to provide clean drinking water in water deficient rural schools by installing standalone water purifications systems. To institutionalize the water quality testing and surveillance, Government of India started National Rural Drinking Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance Programme in the year 2005-06 under which water testing kits are made available to Gram Panchayats and 5 persons in each Gram Panchayat are to be trained to carry out periodical tests.

(c) Under Bharat Nirman — Rural drinking water, which was started in 2005-06 to be implemented in 4 years, it was estimated that about Rs. 6,687 crore would be required as Central share to address water quality problems in about 2.17 lakh water quality-affected habitations in the country.

Enhancement of guaranteed employment days

1845. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal for enhancement of the number of days of guaranteed wage employment under NREGA from 100 to 200 days;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is planning to implement such enhancement of the number of days from 100 to 200 in the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry received a proposal from Chief Minister of Rajasthan for enhancement of the number of days of guaranteed wage employment under NREGA from 100 to 200 days. Another proposal was received from Shri Lalit Kishore Chaturvedi, Member Parliament (Rajya Sabha) for increasing the number of days of employment in Scheduled Tribe areas.

(c) No, Sir. At present, no proposal for enhancement of number of days of employment from 100 to 200 days under NREGA is under consideration of the Ministry of rural Development.

(d) Does not arise.

Implementation of PMGSY

1846. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received reports regarding diversion of funds, non compliance of tendering process and unreliable monitoring in the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the contractors are siphoning off huge funds and not completing the task as per schedule;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) The Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (Report No. 13 of 2006), which is based on test check of records for the period from 2000-2005, has been received in the Ministry. In the report, some instances of diversion of funds, non-compliance of tendering process and unreliable monitoring in the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) has been mentioned.

(b) Some instances of diversion of funds have been reported in respect of the implementation of PMGSY in Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand and West Bengal, non-compliance of tendering process in Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and unreliable monitoring in Andhra Pradesh, Meghalaya, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal.

(c) No such instance has come to notice.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard are as under:-

(i) Andhra Pradesh Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu have been advised to fix responsibility for using PMGSY 'funds for activities not permitted as per the Programme Guidelines.

(ii) The fund flow/utilization is being regularly monitored.

(iii) The States' have been advised to strictly follow the provisions of the Standard Bidding Process.

(iv) The States have been advised to strengthen the quality control mechanism.

(v) The implementation of the programme is being regularly reviewed/monitored.

Irregularities pointed by CAG on NREGS

†1847. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has pointed out many irregularities regarding the funds of "poverty eradication programme" and "National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme" and has given its recommendations in this regard; and

(b) whether Government would take concrete action on the recommendations made by CAG so that such irregularities can be avoided in future?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.